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UKASE ON BULGARIAN LABOR SERVICE

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The following is the text of Ukase No 100, on the Labor Service (Trudova povinnost), dated 27 March 1954, issued by the Presidium of the People's Assembly:

1. The Labor Service is administered by the Main Labor Service Administration (Glavno upravlenie na Trudovata povinnost), which is directly subordinate to the Council of Ministers.
  2. The units of the Main Labor Service Administration are made up of youth eligible for military service who, in accordance with the Bulgarian Peace Agreement of 10 February 1947, cannot be accepted for active military service in the armed forces.
  3. The Labor Service performs economics, construction, and other tasks. Trudovaks (members of the Labor Service) are given ideological training.
  4. The 3-year term of a trudovak begins on 1 January of the year the trudovak enters the service. Recruits are called up once a year, in February and March. They are discharged in December of their last year of service. The exact recruitment and discharge dates are determined by the Minister of Defense, on the recommendation of the chief (nachalnik) of the Labor Service. The age limit for recruitment in the Labor Service is 33.
- The chief may permit annual leave of up to 3 months, which is regarded as regular active service. Not more than two thirds of the entire personnel of the Labor Service may be on leave at one time.
5. Officers, sergeants, trudovaks, and hired personnel (volnonaemnite litsa) of the Labor Service receive the same food, clothing, and pay as members of the People's Army. The Ukase on General Military Service is applicable to the Labor Service to the extent that it does not contradict this ukase, with the following exceptions: (a) officers of the Labor Service receive 10 percent less pay than those under the Ministry of Defense; (b) officers and sergeants of the Labor Service may be retired after 20 years of service. Until this ukase becomes effective, 3 years in the Labor Service is to be counted as 4 years.
  6. The chief of the Labor Service has the same rights over the labor service personnel as the Minister of Defense [has over military personnel?]
  7. Details on this ukase will be published in a ruling issued by the Main Labor Service Administration and approved by the Council of Ministers.
  8. This ukase replaces the Ukase on the Labor Service, published in Durzhaven Vestnik, No 193, on 24 August 1946.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers [V. Chervenkov] is entrusted with carrying out this ukase.

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